

TO:

Mayor, City Councilmembers, City Manager

FROM:

Sharon S. Legg, Finance Director

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SUBJECT:

2010-2011 Insurance Renewals

DATE:

March1, 2011

### **INTRODUCTION**

The City has received the quote from the League of Minnesota Cities Insurance Trust (LMCIT) for the property and liability insurance policy for the period December 1, 2010 through November 30, 2011.

#### **DISCUSSION**

Mr. Mark Lenz of T.C. Field & Company, the City's insurance agent, has presented a quotation for the property and liability policy, which includes a \$50,000 deductible up to an aggregate of \$200,000 as in previous policies. The premium savings by utilizing the \$50,000 deductible rather than a \$1,000 deductible will be \$170,996. The City paid \$37,440 in property and liability losses in 2010 plus \$2,227 for no fault sewer backup claims.

## **Property/Liability Rates**

LMCIT increased liability rates 3 percent and property rates decreased 4 percent for 2011 policy periods. Coon Rapids is insuring \$89 million in buildings and 189 vehicles. Liability exposure is based on \$28.8 million of expenditures. The LMCIT uses an experience rating formula to calculate a city's expected losses, using a loss rate of so many dollars of loss per \$1,000 of city expenditures, plus so many dollars of loss per vehicle. When less than one, the rating represents a discount from the standard premium. The expected loss factors are derived from actual past experience of the LMCIT's total membership and each individual city's losses for the past three years, excluding the most recent policy year. The policy year runs from December 1st thru November 30th. This year's premium is based on 2007, 2008 and 2009 losses. The City's experience rating factor decreased from .846 to .836, which means less premium paid.

# Optional No Fault Sewer Back-Up Coverage

The premium for optional no-fault sewer back-up coverage for the coming year will be \$10,426. This premium pays for sewer back-up damages up to a \$10,000 limit, regardless of fault. Based on a review of claims paid under this coverage for the last year, in addition to the premium, \$2,227 has been paid on these claims. Since individuals are able to obtain sewer back-up insurance through homeowners' policies, again staff recommends that the City not purchase this insurance. You may recall that the City Council wanted staff to alert citizens to the City dropping this coverage in advance. Attached is a list of the cities that carry the coverage through the LMCIT. Also attached is the copy of the article that was in the Herald Newspaper last year.

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#### **Legal Limit**

Statutory limits are \$500,000 per claimant and \$1.5 million per occurrence. The City has the option to waive these limits, allowing the LMCIT to pay claims in excess of the statutory limit. Waiving the limit does increase the premium. Staff recommends the City not waive the statutory limit.

# **BUDGET IMPACT**

The 2011 Budget for insurance premiums is as follows:

General Fund	\$114,610
Water Fund	32,693
Sewer Fund	33,773
Golf Fund	38,782
Storm Drain Fund	5,014
Insurance Fund	45,200
Miscellaneous Funds	11,308
	281,380
Less Agent's Commission	(15,500)
	\$265,880
Property/Liability thru L.M.C.I.T.	\$189,380
No fault sewer back up coverage	10,426
Accident policy for volunteers	2,175
Other Vendors	3,574
	\$205,555

#### **ACTION REQUESTED**

Staff recommends authorization for the following:

- 1. The purchase of insurance through the LMCIT with a \$50,000 deductible up to an annual aggregate of \$200,000.
- 2. Maintain statutory legal limits of \$1.5 million per occurrence.
- 3. Opt not to purchase sewer backup liability insurance.

City of Coon Rapids, MN Proposed Insurance Premiums 2010/11 as compared to prior years Deductible: 50,000/200,000

Insured property in millions	2010/11 88.7	2009/10 71.4	<b>2008/09</b> 69.3	2007/08	2006/07	2005/06	2004/05	2003/04	2002/03	2001/02
Number of vehicles/trailers (1)	88.7 189	186		67.1	63.6	59.4	55	53.2	49.6	47.6
Liability exposure based on expenditures (millions)			195	190	181	196	196	174	173	176
Error & ommission civerage based on expenditures (millions)	28.7 53.3	28.7 48.3	29.3	28.8	27	26.2	27.2	22.5	21.6	21.5
Statutory limits:	33.3	48.3	50.3	51.7	49.1	49.2	51.3	39.2	44.1	43.3
Per claimant	500,000	500,000	400,000	300,000	300,000	300,000	300,000	300,000	200.000	200.000
Per occurrence (\$M)	1.5	1.5	1.2	1.2	1	300,000	300,000	300,000	300,000	300,000
Experience rating	0.836	0.846	0.91	0.986	0.94	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
							- 1/1-	17711	14/21	14/11
Premium:										
Property	39,838	39,527	39,975	42,044	39,082	29,614	28,200	33,597	25,523	21,875
Inland marine	7,724	8,511	9,754	10,350	8,207	6,749	7,610	7,370	7,141	5,486
Municipal liability	101,013	106,182	126,011	134,372	113,784	94,234	93,997	99,851	97,524	92,039
Automobile liability & physical	26,954	28,621	34,966	35,669	30,176	28,055	29,031	29,268	26,804	32,221
Petrofund reimbursement	Included	Included	Included	Included	Included	Included	576	621	698	698
Open meeting law	Included	Included	1,496	1,657	1,742	1,599	1,738	1,812	2,077	2,078
Bonds	1,373	1,656	1,595	1,491	1,374	1,350	1,405	1,384	1,646	1,453
No fault sewer back-up	10,426	9,024	10,718	10,529	9,672	11,069	7,990	8,486	8,262	7,819
Equipment breakdown	12,478	9,967	9,664	10,988	10,416	9,490	8,703	8,428	7,844	7,520
Accident plan for volunteers (est)	2,175	2,175	2,175	2,175	2,175	2,175	2,175	2,175	2,175	2,175
Total LMCIT policy	201,981	205,663	236,354	249,275	216,628	184,335	181,425	192,992	179,694	173,364
Other vendors										
Lawyer's professional (Aug 1 renewal)	3,574	3,574	3,759	3,942	3,942	3,942	3,876	3,876	3,555	2,963
Clinic professional (June 1 renewal)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	4,756	4,754	4,756	4,756	3,805	3,260
Total other vendors	3,574	3,574	3,759	3,942	8,698	8,696	8,632	8,632	7,360	6,223
Excess liability (\$1,000,000)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	39,240
Total premium	205,555	209,237	240,113	253,217	225,326	193,031	190,057	201,624	187,054	218,827

<sup>(1)</sup> Based on number of vehicles at time of application. Fluctuations occur due to overlap in delivery of new units and disposal of old ones.

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POLICY NUMBER EFFECTIVE DATE INTERNAL COVERAGE CODEFILE DESC INSURED NO-FAULT SEWER BACKUP-COVERAGE ALBERTVILLE, CITY OF 2009-10-01 2010-04-01 SDH NO-FAULT SEWER BACKUP \$25,000 ALEXANDRIA LAKES AREA CMC 31781 ANNANDALE, CITY OF APPLETON, CITY OF ARGYLE, CITY OF CMC 31032 2009-09-30 SBH NO-FAULT SEWER BACKUP-COVERAGE NO-FAULT SEWER BACKUP-COVERAGE CMC 31457 2010-01-01 SBH CMC 2010-02-16 SBH NO-FAULT SEWER BACKUP-COVERAGE 31677 NO-FAULT SEWER BACKUP-COVERAGE ASHBY, CITY OF CMC 32035 2010-06-10 SBH CMC NO-FAULT SEWER BACKUP-COVERAGE 2009-08-08 SBH BELLINGHAM, CITY OF 31038 NO-FAULT SEWER BACKUP-COVERAGE NO-FAULT SEWER BACKUP-COVERAGE BINGHAM LAKE, CITY OF CMC 31319 2009-11-29 SBH BIRCHWOOD VILLAGE, CITY OF CMC 32095 2010-06-12 SBH CMC 32074 2010-06-01 NO-FAULT SEWER BACKUP-COVERAGE SBH BLACKDUCK, CITY OF BURNSVILLE, CITY OF CMC 31417 2010-01-04 SDH NO-FAULT SEWER BACKUP \$25,000 CMC 2010-02-06 NO-FAULT SEWER BACKUP-COVERAGE CEDAR LAKE WATER & SANITARY SBH 31739 NO-FAULT SEWER BACKUP-COVERAGE CHISAGO CITY, CITY OF CMC 31679 2010-02-18 SBH CLEARWATER, CITY OF CMC 31063 2009-08-05 SBH NO-FAULT SEWER BACKUP-COVERAGE CMC NO-FAULT SEWER BACKUP-COVERAGE CLINTON, CITY OF 31842 2010-04-15 SBH COLUMBIA HEIGHTS, CITY OF & CMC 31990 2010-06-01 SBH NO-FAULT SEWER BACKUP-COVERAGE NO-FAULT SEWER BACKUP-COVERAGE CMC 2009-12-01 SBH COON RAPIDS, CITY OF 31360 COURTLAND, CITY OF CMC 31847 2010-04-01 SBH NO-FAULT SEWER BACKUP-COVERAGE DELHI, CITY OF DUNDAS, CITY OF NO-FAULT SEWER BACKUP-COVERAGE CMC 31718 2010-02-06 SBH 2010-05-01 NO-FAULT SEWER BACKUP-COVERAGE CMC 31873 SBH GARFIELD, CITY OF GOLDEN VALLEY, CITY OF NO-FAULT SEWER BACKUP-COVERAGE CMC 31582 2010-04-01 SBH 2010-02-01 SBH NO-FAULT SEWER BACKUP-COVERAGE CMC 31538 NO-FAULT SEWER BACKUP-COVERAGE NO-FAULT SEWER BACKUP-COVERAGE 31302 2009-11-12 SBH GONVICK, CITY OF CMC CMC 2009-10-12 31191 SBH ✓ GREENWOOD, CITY OF GREY EAGLE, CITY OF 31800 NO-FAULT SEWER BACKUP-COVERAGE CMC 2010-03-01 SBH NO-FAULT SEWER BACKUP \$25,000 GRYGLA, CITY OF CMC 31192 2009-10-01 SDH HAMBURG, CITY OF HAYFIELD, CITY OF HINCKLEY, CITY OF NO-FAULT SEWER BACKUP-COVERAGE CMC 32259 2010-07-15 SBH NO-FAULT SEWER BACKUP-COVERAGE CMC 31387 2009-12-15 SBH NO-FAULT SEWER BACKUP-COVERAGE 32084 2010-07-08 SBH CMC HOLDINGFORD, CITY OF CMC 32036 2010-06-08 SBH NO-FAULT SEWER BACKUP-COVERAGE NO-FAULT SEWER BACKUP-COVERAGE HOWARD LAKE, CITY OF 31506 2010-01-17 SBH IVANHOE, CITY OF JEFFERS, CITY OF KARLSTAD, CITY OF KASSON, CITY OF KELLOGG, CITY OF CMC 32043 SBH NO-FAULT SEWER BACKUP-COVERAGE 2010-06-01 31745 2010-02-01 SBH NO-FAULT SEWER BACKUP-COVERAGE CMC 31422 NO-FAULT SEWER BACKUP-COVERAGE CMC 2009-12-31 SBH CMC 31435 2010-01-01 SDH NO-FAULT SEWER BACKUP \$25,000 NO-FAULT SEWER BACKUP-COVERAGE CMC 31414 2010-01-01 SBH NO-FAULT SEWER BACKUP \$25,000 LAKE WASHINGTON SANITARY CMC 31210 2009-10-15 SDH LONG BEACH, CITY OF CMC 31897 2010-05-30 SBH NO-FAULT SEWER BACKUP-COVERAGE 2009-12-20 31391 NO-FAULT SEWER BACKUP-COVERAGE LYLE, CITY OF CMC SBH MAHTOMEDI, CITY OF 31622 2010-02-26 NO-FAULT SEWER BACKUP-COVERAGE CMC SBH NO-FAULT SEWER BACKUP-COVERAGE MIDDLE RIVER, CITY OF CMC 31220 2009-10-07 SBH MINNEOTA CITY OF SBH NO-FAULT SEWER BACKUP-COVERAGE NO-FAULT SWER BACKUP \$40,000 CMC 31136 2009-09-22 VMINNETONKA BEACH, CITY OF 32201 SFH CMC 2010-07-31 MONTGOMERY, CITY OF NEVIS, CITY OF NO-FAULT SEWER BACKUP-COVERAGE CMC 32136 SBH 2010-06-26 NO-FAULT SEWER BACKUP-COVERAGE NO-FAULT SEWER BACKUP-COVERAGE 31947 2010-05-01 SBH CMC NEW BRIGHTON, CITY OF NEW PRAGUE, CITY OF OSLO, CITY OF CMC 31528 2010-01-01 SBH 31915 SBH NO-FAULT SEWER BACKUP-COVERAGE CMC 2010-04-01 NO-FAULT SEWER BACKUP-COVERAGE 31791 CMC 2010-01-01 SBH OTSEGO, CITY OF NO-FAULT SEWER BACKUP \$25,000 CMC 31159 2009-09-25 SDH

LMCIT P/C policies w/exp dates 8-1-10 thru 7-31-11 w/int cov code SBH, SDH or SFH-no fault sewer backup sort by insured as of date & time of report 08/30/10 14:54:24 PAGE nofaultsew/brprg14011

INSURED	POLICY NUMBER	R EFFECTIVE DATE	INTERNAL COVERAGE	CODEFILE DESC
PALISADE, CITY OF	CMC 31224	2009-10-08	SBH	NO-FAULT SEWER BACKUP-COVERAGE
PENNOCK, CITY OF	CMC 31838	2010-03 <b>-1</b> 5	SBH	NO-FAULT SEWER BACKUP-COVERAGE
PINE RIVER, CITY OF	CMC 31121	2009-09-01	SBH	NO-FAULT SEWER BACKUP-COVERAGE
PLATO, CITY OF	CMC 31640	2010-01-01	SBH	NO-FAULT SEWER BACKUP-COVERAGE
RICH PRAIRIE SEWER AND WATER	CMC 31793	2010-04-01	SBH	NO-FAULT SEWER BACKUP-COVERAGE
ROTHSAY, CITY OF	CMC 32008	2010-06-04	SBH	NO-FAULT SEWER BACKUP-COVERAGE
SANDSTONE, CITY OF	CMC 32083	2010-06-01	SBH	NO-FAULT SEWER BACKUP-COVERAGE
SCANLON, CITY OF	CMC 31042	2009-08-14	SBH	NO-FAULT SEWER BACKUP-COVERAGE
√SHOREWOOD, CITY OF	CMC 31265	2009-11-01	SBH	NO-FAULT SEWER BACKUP-COVERAGE
SPRING PARK, CITY OF	CMC 31777	2010-03-16	SBH	NO-FAULT SEWER BACKUP-COVERAGE
ST. ANTHONY VILLAGE, CITY OF	CMC 32010	2010-06-01	SBH	NO-FAULT SEWER BACKUP-COVERAGE
VST. LOUIS PARK CITY OF	CMC 31861	2010-04-01	SFH	NO-FAULT SWER BACKUP \$40,000
ST. MICHAEL, CITY OF	CMC 31978	2010-05-06	SFH	NO-FAULT SWER BACKUP \$40,000
TAUNTON, CITY OF	CMC 31977	2010-05-10	SBH	NO-FAULT SEWER BACKUP-COVERAGE
TRUMAN, CITY OF	CMC 31796	2010-04-01	SBH	NO-FAULT SEWER BACKUP-COVERAGE
VERNON CENTER, CITY OF	CMC 31164	2009-09-19	SBH	NO-FAULT SEWER BACKUP-COVERAGE
VESTA , CITY OF	CMC 31237	2009-10-23	SBH	NO-FAULT SEWER BACKUP-COVERAGE
WATERTOWN, CITY OF	CMC 31002	2009-08-01	\$BH	NO-FAULT SEWER BACKUP-COVERAGE
✓ WEST ST. PAUL, CITY OF	CMC 31439	2010-01-01	SBH	NO-FAULT SEWER BACKUP-COVERAGE

\* \* \* END OF REPORT \* \* \*

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71 as of 9-23-10

# City may drop residential sewer backup insurance coverage in 2011



Wednesday, 20 January 2010

by Peter Bodley Managing editor

For years, the city of Coon Rapids has paid for a certain portion of residents' back-up costs, no matter who was at fault, through its insurance coverage.

But a staff recommendation to the Coon Rapids City Council proposed eliminating that insurance coverage premium for 2010.

The premium, which is part of the city's property and liability policy with the League of Minnesota Cities Insurance Trust (LMCIT), totals \$9,024.

However, while the Coon Rapids City Council was not ready to drop the no fault coverage for 2010, it is willing to do so in 2011, once an education and awareness program to let residents know of the impending action has taken place this year.

According to Sharon Legg, city finance director, the \$9,024 annual premium pays for sewer back-up damages up to a \$10,000 limit, regardless of fault.

Based on a review of claims paid under this coverage for the past three years, \$115,000 had been paid on these claims in addition to the annual premium, Legg said.

And because of the deductible the city has on its LMCIT property and liability policy, the pay out has come directly from city coffers rather than through the insurance policy, she said.

"Since individuals are able to obtain sewer back-up insurance through homeowners' policies, staff recommends that the city not purchase this insurance," Legg said.

Legg provided the council with a list of cities in Minensora that have this no-fault sewer back-up coverage through LMCIT. Few are in the Twin Cities metro area, she said.

In fact, of the 67 communities listed as having the coverage, only Burnsville, Columbia Heights, Coon Rapids, Golden Valley, Mahtomedi, New Brighton, St. Anthony and West St. Paul are in the metro area.

According to Councilmember Denise Klint, it was her feeling that many of the residents who have received sewer backup damages from the city have a continuing problem with back-ups because of the location of their homes.

She asked staff to provide information on where the problem spots are in the city.

And before approving the policy change, Klint wanted these residents, especially, to be informed well ahead of time, she said.

"We need to make sure we educate everyone first," Klint said.

Mayor Tim Howe was concerned whether homeowners who have had several sewer back-up experiences would be able to get homeowners insurance coverage if there was a pre-existing condition.

Since the city began its program of using television cameras to check out the sewer system to for any issues with the sewer lines, back-ups caused by sewer line problems have been fewer, Legg said.

According to the city of Coon Rapids Web site, Coon Rapids has equipment to televise, inspect and remove debris that might be clogging sewer lines.

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Employees inspect and "jet" a line and vacuum larger debris from the sewer system main line when necessary, while manhole locations are spot-checked monthly and sewer lines are cleaned on a sectional basis covering the entire city over a five year period, the Web site states.

But the Web site advised residents not to pour grease of any kind down the drain or flush any type of hygiene product, even if it says "flushable," because will cause sewer backups.

Peter Bodley is at peter.bodley@ecm-inc.com

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#### Incurred Sewer Back-up Claims

12/1/04 - 12/1/05	12/1/05 - 12/1/06	12/1/06 - 12/1/07	12/1/2007-12/1/08	12/1/2008-12/1/09	12/1/2009-12/1/10
2,037 2,190	20,226 paper/dirt in main 2,169 maint related	10,000 no fault 916	1,713 Roots 3,900 no fault	10.000 no fault	1.000 12/8/09 no fault
15,951	2,028 grease	1,000 no fault	500 no fault	7,103 no fault grease	7,000 12/4/09 liability
620	29,155 block in main	8,812 no fault	10,600 no fault due to watermain	2,215 no fault paper	227 5/12/10 no fault
469	4,814 floor drain		10,000 no fault due to watermain	1,278 liability grease	1,000 7/23/10 no fault
7,444	425 roots/rag in main		485 no fault due to watermain	10,000 no fault	135 1/1/10 liability
31,115	1,810 roots/rag in main		10,000 no fault due to watermain	10,000 no fauit	2,720 12/17/2010 liability
1,889			7,751 no fault due to watermain	1,598 no fault	
3,852				10,878 no fault	
65,567	60,627	20,728	44,949	53,072	12,082